IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/683,863	**Confirmation No.**	:	7839
Applicant	:	Aldag et al			
Filed	:	10/13/2003			
TC/A.U.	:	3749			
Examiner	:	Wilson, Gregory A.			
Docket No.	:	021944-067US			
Customer No.	:	26720			

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on November 29, 2006, please consider the following arguments set forth herein. This Response is electronically filed within three (3) months of the mailing date of the Office Action and, therefore, is timely.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the arguments presented herein.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page **2**.

Applicant's **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page **8** of this paper.